Patent

Attorney's Docket No.: 027650-958

APR 2 9 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of)

Morio HARA et al.

Application No.: 08/973,416

Filed: November 14, 1997

For: RESIN COMPOSITION AND

LAMINATE FOR STORAGE OF

LIQUID FOODS

Group Art Unit: 1773

Examiner: K. Kruer

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action in the Continued Prosecution Application, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 14-19 without prejudice or disclaimer; replace claims 1, 3, 11, 20 and 21 and add new claims 22-31 as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A resin composition to be used in a multi-layer-laminate for storing liquid foods, comprising a hydrophilic reducing organic compound kneaded with a hydrophilic and water insoluble thermoplastic resin, wherein the hydrophilic and water insoluble resin provides an oxygen gas barrier for the hydrophilic reducing organic compound and wherein the kneaded hydrophilic reducing organic compound and the water insoluble thermoplastic resin are kneaded with and dispersed in a hydrophobic

thermoplastic resin.

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